





## INTIMATIONS

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MANUFACTURERS OF

**AERATED WATERS.**

of our manufacture made under constant European supervision are sold throughout the Far East and are invariably preferred on account of their excellence.

The Machinery in use embodies every improvement up to date.

**ABSOLUTE PURITY** is guaranteed. The best materials only are used.

The **PRICES** are only half those charged in England.

**WATERS MANUFACTURED BY US** are acknowledged by the leading English makers to be equal to those of their own production.

Sir Edward Frankland, K.C.B., D.C.L., F.R.S., F.C.S. &c., the most eminent authority on Water, reports as follows on the water as prepared and used in our factory:—

"It possesses an extremely high degree of organic purity and is of most excellent quality for drinking."

**A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.**

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

**NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.**  
Only communications relating to the news columns should be addressed to THE EDITOR.  
Correspondents must forward their communications to the Editor, not to the publisher, and as evidence of good faith, must enclose a return address.  
All letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.  
To anonymously signed communications that have already appeared in our columns, we shall be glad to receive them again, if they contain new matter, and if they are sent to the Editor, not to the publisher, and as evidence of good faith, must enclose a return address.  
P.O. Box 20. Telephone 1212.

**The Daily Press.**

HONGKONG, October 10th, 1899.

Reference was made in this column yesterday to an article by "Saxx" in the *Contemporary Review*, and more especially to the views therein expressed as to Great Britain's responsibility for the maintenance of order in her sphere of influence. There is another point made in the article which merits attention, namely, the present weakness of our intelligence department and the importance of strengthening it. Judging by all the signs of the times, says "Saxx," a properly organized intelligence office in connection with our British Embassy at Peking is practically non-existent. Other wise, he proceeds to ask, "how can we account for the fact that our Minister 'chose the critical moment when the Queen-Dowager was just on the very point of practically deposing the Emperor and putting herself in his place to go off for a holiday and sun-bathing?' After a reference to the importance of the crisis, and stating that his approach was perfectly well known by thousands of Chinese and probably in every foreign embassy in Peking except ours, the article proceeds:—  
"If we consider the general question: 'How shall we deal with the situation?' Powers are, or ought to be, in the 'right way' to work, in the best possible position for acquiring good information 'relating to every part of China. There are hundreds of capable and well-informed English missionaries spread over every district therein. Most of them would be only too glad to give valuable reports 'from time to time to the British Minister' as Peking of the state of affairs in their 'district.' Being in the closest touch with the natives and speaking Chinese, the information they would supply would be invaluable. They say that their advice and opinion are never sought. There 'ought clearly to be a competent official attached to the Embassy whose province it should be to collect, collate, and digest their reports and present the substance of them to the British Minister at regular intervals for his information and for transmission to the Foreign Office.' No doubt the missionary body would prove a valuable mine of information, but it is not the only mine that might be advantageously worked. There are a number of Europeans in China outside the missionary ranks who have opportunities of acquiring early information as to approaching political movements in the general trend of native opinion. In some cases information of a valuable nature, and the accuracy of which was fully verified by subsequent events, has been voluntarily tendered to the Embassy and has been acknowledged with such courtesy as to convey the impression that untroubled communications of this kind were welcome and regarded with suspicion. Ever since the establishment of an Embassy at Peking there seems to have been a want of sympathy between the Minister and the British residents in China. Not only has the Embassy remained comparatively uninformed concerning what was going on beneath the surface in Chinese circles, but he has also been out of touch with his own nationals, whether mercantile or missionary.

It would be well, as has been frequently remarked, if the Minister were to make more frequent tours of the treaty ports and confer with the British communities there. Also, as suggested by "Saxx," the information obtainable from the members of the missionary body should be carefully collected by a regularly organized intelligence office attached to the Embassy. Another valuable means of obtaining information would be by the employment of trained native agents engaged at fixed salaries whose duty it would be to make regular reports on the political talk of the shops and the capital and chief towns of the provinces. Other means of obtaining information would no doubt suggest themselves to a skilled intelligence officer. "Saxx" does not exaggerate the importance of having such an office connected with the Legation. The Home Government may have clear ideas of the line of policy they wish to follow with regard to China, but while they remain ignorant, and allow the Minister to remain ignorant, of the daily course of events, they are liable at any time to have their policy wrecked altogether.

There were 1,751 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 199 were Europeans.

We have to acknowledge receipt of No. 3 of *The Yellow Dragon*, the Queen's College Journal.

Today's supplement contains:—Johann Mining and Trading Co. Limited, The Yokohama Specie Bank Limited, &c.

Mr. (Edith) the Police Magistrate of the New Territory, has had to come in from Tai-ping with an attack of fever.

The cases of communicable disease reported last week were two of typhoid fever (on Sunday and Monday), both fatal, and one of enteric fever.

The American ship *Emily*, with a cargo of kerosene oil for Hongkong, which was reported by the German brig *Silo* making for Singapore in a leaky condition, arrived at Singapore on the 29th September.

At Saigon, on the 18th September, Lieutenant Staud, the commander of the French gunboat *Garoude*, killed himself with a revolver.

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## LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[FROM THE ROYAL CHRONICLE.]

## A DOMINION LINER ASHORE.

London, 10th October.

The Dominion liner *Saskatoon* (801 tons gross) has gone ashore.

Eleven women were drowned, and a minority broke out among the crew.

**BURNING OF A RIVER STEAMER.**

London, 10th October.

The *Montana* has been burnt on the Magdalen River (which runs through Colombia, South America).

Thirty lives were lost, among those who perished being the Secretary of the Treasury of Colombia.

## PICQUART EXONERATED.

London, 29th September.

Colonel Picquart was proceeded against by the French General Staff for his action in support of Dreyfus has been officially exonerated.

## INTERVIEW WITH PRESIDENT KRUGER.

London, 29th September.

The *Transvaal* correspondent of the *Transvaal* has had an interview with President Kruger, who declared that war was inevitable unless England made peace possible.

He further declared that after the *Transvaal* Republic had accepted the proposed inquiry into the franchise proposals, the thread of the negotiations was deliberately broken by Great Britain, and British troops were massed on all sides of the *Transvaal* frontier.

## EDWARD CLARKE Q.C. (Conservative)

London, 29th September.

Mr. Edward Clarke Q.C. (Conservative) member for Plymouth and Solicitor-General in Lord Salisbury's last Cabinet, has made a speech at Plymouth which he declares that he will not repeat.

The *Transvaal* correspondent of the *Transvaal* has had an interview with President Kruger, who declared that war was inevitable unless England made peace possible.

He further declared that after the *Transvaal* Republic had accepted the proposed inquiry into the franchise proposals, the thread of the negotiations was deliberately broken by Great Britain, and British troops were massed on all sides of the *Transvaal* frontier.

## THE RAID ON TRIAD SOCIETIES.

London, 29th September.

Captain Superintendent May returned from the New Territory on Sunday. He had been away a week, during which time he was engaged in a raid on the Triad Societies.

The raid was made on the early morning of the 10th October, five parties of police being engaged in the raid.

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## CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

## THE CHINESE CUSTOMS SERVICE.

London, 10th October.

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## THE ORANGE FREE STATE'S ATTITUDE.

London, 10th September.

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## SHIPMENTS FOR THE TRANSVAAL.

London, 10th September.

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